DEE MARGOMAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL

Peter Svarzbein, District 1
Alexsandra Annello District 2
Cassandra Hernandez, District 3
Dr. Sam Morgan, District 4
Isabel Salcido, District 5
Claudia Ordaz Perez, District 6
Henry Rivera, District 7
Cissy Lizarraga, District 8

November 26, 2019

News Release

Thanksgiving Fire Safety Tips

EL PASO, Texas – According to the U.S. Fire Administration, each year, fire departments across the nation respond to an estimated 2,400 house fires on Thanksgiving Day; causing multiple injuries, deaths and millions of dollars in property loss.

By following a few simple safety tips, you can enjoy time with your loved ones and keep yourself and your family safe.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stove top so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey, and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and children should stay three feet away.
- Make sure children stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Keep the floor clear of any items that might pose a slipping or tripping hazard.
- Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

The use of turkey fryers – which use a large amount of cooking oil at high temperatures – also pose a significant danger and can lead to devastating burns, other injuries and the destruction of property. If you decide to fry your own turkey, watch our public safety advisory video at turkey.elpasofire.org first to assist you in preparing your equipment, turkey and ensure you take the proper safety steps during this process.

For more information and updates, visit us at <u>elpasofire.org</u> and follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

###

Media Contact: Enrique Duenas Aguilar Fire Public Information Officer (915) 317-8943 aguilardex@elpasotexas.gov